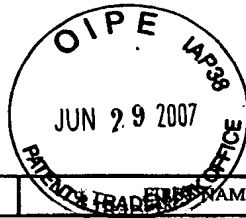




UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



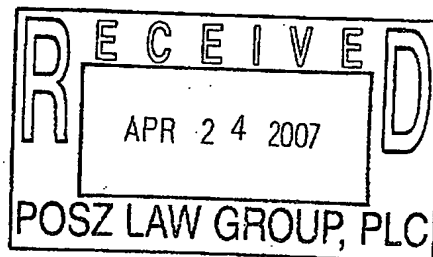
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/717,902	11/21/2003	Kenichi Ao	01-527	7361
23400 7590 04/23/2007 POSZ LAW GROUP, PLC 12040 SOUTH LAKES DRIVE SUITE 101 RESTON, VA 20191				
			EXAMINER LINDSAY JR, WALTER LEE	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2812	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/23/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.



Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/717,902

Applicant(s)

AO ET AL.

Examiner

Walter L. Lindsay, Jr.

Art Unit

2812

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

拒絕通知書

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-54 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 15-18 and 34-54 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 19-33 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 13 and 14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-12 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

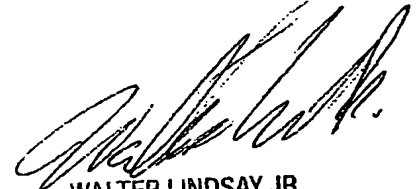
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

WALTER LINDSAY JR.
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date See Continuation Sheet.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____

Continuation of Attachment(s) 3). Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08), Paper No(s)/Mail Date :2/15/2007, 12/07/2006, 9/28/2006, 5/16/2006, 12/22/2005, 11/01/2005, 11/21/2003.



WALTER LINDSAY JR.
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of claims 1-14 and 19-33 in the reply filed on 1/3/2007 is acknowledged.
2. Claims 15-18 and 34-54 have been withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 1/3/2007.

Specification

3. The specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1, 2, 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nishiwaki et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2006/0164204 filed 9/12/2003).

Nishiwaki shows the method as claimed in Figs. 1A-3 in corresponding text as: a semiconductor substrate (1); a magnetic impedance device for detecting a magnetic field wherein the magnetic impedance device (7 and 8) is disposed on the substrate [0043] (claim 1). Nishiwaki teaches that a periphery circuit (bridge circuit) for processing an output signal outputted from the magnetic impedance device wherein the periphery circuit is disposed on the substrate [0042] (claim 2). Nishiwaki teaches that an oxidation protection film (5) disposed on the magnetic impedance device [0048] (claim 13). Nishiwaki teaches that the oxidation protection film is made of silicon oxides, silicon nitrides, or composite film of silicon oxides and silicon nitrides, [0048] (claim 14).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 3-12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. Claims 19-33 are allowed.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Walter L. Lindsay, Jr. whose telephone number is (571) 272-1674. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael S. Lebentritt can be reached on (571) 272-1873. The fax phone

Application/Control Number: 10/717,902

Page 4

Art Unit: 2812

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.


Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Walter L. Lindsay, Jr.
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2812

WLL

April 15, 2007

• PATENT APPLICATION
Page 1 of 1

FORM PTO-1449


ATTY. DKT NO. 01-527	SER. NO. 10/717,902
APPLICANT AO et al.	
FILING DATE November 21, 2003	GROUP 2812 WLL

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS
/WL/	5,781,005 (Corresponds to KR-1997-4106)	7/14/98	VIG et al.		

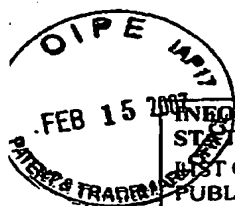
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

									TRANSLATION	
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	YES	NO	
										Eng. Abstract

- Full English text is available in machine-translated form in JPO (Japanese Patent Office) English language web site at <http://www1.ipdl.jpo.go.jp/PA1/cgi-bin/PA1INDEX>.

OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

/WL/		Notice of Preliminary Rejection from Korean Patent Office issued on April 21, 2006 for the corresponding Korean patent application No. 10-2006-0008570 (a copy and English translation thereof)
EXAMINER /Walter Lindsay Jr/		DATE CONSIDERED 04/15/2007



* PATENT APPLICATION
Page 1 of 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS (FORM PTO-1449)	ATTY. DKT NO.	01-527	SER. NO.	10/717,902
	APPLICANT	AO et al.		
	FILING DATE	November 21, 2003	GROUP	2862

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS
/WL/	5,471,084 (Corresponds to JP-A-05- 275768 and JP-A-06-188479)	11/28/095	SUZUKI et al.		
/WL/	6,732,583 B1 (Corresponds to WO 01/88482)	5/11/04	YASUDA et al.		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	YES	TRANSLATION	
									NO	Eng. Abstract
/WL/		JP-A-2001-289929	10/19/01	JAPAN						X

* Full English text is available in machine-translated form in JPO (Japanese Patent Office) English language web site at <http://www1.ipdl.jpo.go.jp/PA1/cgi-bin/PA1INDEX>.

OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

Notice of Reason for Refusal from Japanese Patent Office issued on December 26, 2006 for the corresponding Japanese patent application No. 2003-073900 (a copy and English translation thereof)	
EXAMINER /Walter Lindsay Jr/	DATE CONSIDERED 04/15/2007

Rev. 10/94 (Form 3.05)

FORM PTO-1473 DEC 07 2006 JPO	ATTY. DKT NO.	01-527	SER. NO.	10/717,902
	APPLICANT	AO et al.		
	FILING DATE	November 21, 2003	GROUP	2862

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

TRANSLATION

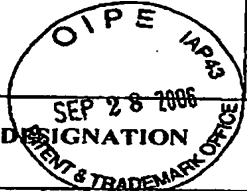
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	YES	NO	
									Eng. Abstract	
/WL/		JP-A-05-288571	11/2/93	JAPAN						X
/WL/		JP-U-H02-129813	10/25/90	JAPAN				X (Partial)		
/WL/		JP-A-06-324061	11/25/94	JAPAN						X
/WL/		JP-A-08-178937	7/12/96	JAPAN						X

* Full English text is available in machine-translated form in JPO (Japanese Patent Office) English language web site at <http://www1.ipdl.jpo.go.jp/PA1/cgi-bin/PA1INDEX>.

OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

/WL/		Decision for Refusal from Japanese Patent Office issued on November 21, 2006 for the corresponding Japanese patent application No. 2003-058899 (a copy and English translation thereof)
/WL/		Decision for Refusal from Japanese Patent Office issued on November 21, 2006 for the corresponding Japanese patent application No. 2003-058900 (a copy and English translation thereof)
EXAMINER /Walter Lindsay Jr/		DATE CONSIDERED 04/16/2007

FORM PTO-1449	ATTY. DKT NO. 01-527	SER. NO. 10/717,902
	APPLICANT AO et al.	
	FILING DATE November 21, 2003	GROUP 2862



REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS
/WL/	6,692,153 B2 (Corresponds to JP-A-2002-267680)	2/17/04	OHTSUKI et al.		
/WL/	6,939,050 B2 (Corresponds to JP-A-2002-267680)	9/6/05	OHTSUKI et al.		
/WL/	2005/0259902 A1 (Corresponds to JP-A-2002-267680)	11/24/05	OHTSUKI et al.		
/WL/	6,232,767 B1 (Corresponds to JP-A-10-115627)	5/15/01	KAWASE et al.		
/WL/	6,246,226 B1 (Corresponds to JP-A-10-115627)	6/12/01	KAWASE et al.		
/WL/	5,637,995 (Corresponds to JP-A-07-027571)	6/10/97	IZAWA et al.		


FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	YES	TRANSLATION	
								NO	Eng. Abstract
/WL/	JP-A-2003-056378	2/26/03	JAPAN						X
/WL/	JP-A-06-174409	6/24/94	JAPAN						X
/WL/	JP-A-09-329619	12/22/97	JAPAN						X
/WL/	JP-A-10-300763	11/13/98	JAPAN						X
/WL/	JP-A-11-230782	8/27/99	JAPAN						X

* Full English text is available in machine-translated form in JPO (Japanese Patent Office) English language web site at <http://www1.ipdl.jpo.go.jp/PA1/cgi-bin/PA1INDEX>.

OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

/WL/	Notice of Reason for Refusal from Japanese Patent Office issued on August 29, 2006 for the corresponding Japanese patent application No. 2003-058900 (a copy and English translation thereof)
/WL/	Notice of Reason for Refusal from Japanese Patent Office issued on September 5, 2006 for the corresponding Japanese patent application No. 2003-058899 (a copy and English translation thereof)
EXAMINER /Walter Lindsay Jr/	DATE CONSIDERED 04/15/2007

FORM PTO-1449		ATTY. DKT NO. 01-527	SER. NO. 10/717,902
		APPLICANT AO et al.	
		FILING DATE November 21, 2003	GROUP 2862

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

TRANSLATION

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	YES	NO	
									Eng. Abstract	
/WL/		JP-A-64-021977	1/25/89	JAPAN						X
/WL/		WO00/25371 (Corresponding to KR 2001-33533 discussed in the Office Action)	5/4/00	PCT						X

- * Full English text is available in machine-translated form in JPO (Japanese Patent Office) English language web site at <http://www1.ipdl.jpo.go.jp/PA1/cgi-bin/PA1INDEX>.

OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

/WL/	Office Action issued from Korean Patent Office issued on October 31, 2005 for the corresponding Korean patent application No. 2003-0082788 (a copy and English translation thereof)
EXAMINER /Walter Lindsay Jr/	DATE CONSIDERED 04/16/2007

FORM PTO-1449	ATTY. DKT NO.	01-527	SER. NO.	10/717,902
	APPLICANT	AO et al.		
	FILING DATE	November 21, 2003	GROUP	2862

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS
/WL/	5,889,403	03/30/99	Kawase		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

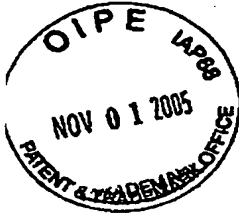
TRANSLATION

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	YES	NO	
									Eng. Abstract	

* Full English text is available in machine-translated form in JPO (Japanese Patent Office) English language web site at <http://www1.ipdl.jpo.go.jp/PA1/cgi-bin/PA1INDEX>.

OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

/WL/	Office Action and its translation from Chinese Patent Office dated August 5, 2005.
EXAMINER /Walter Lindsay Jr/	DATE CONSIDERED 04/16/2007



• PATENT APPLICATION

Page 1 of 1

FORM PTO-1449	ATTY. DKT NO.	01-527	SER. NO.
	APPLICANT AO et al.		
	FILING DATE	November 21, 2003	GROUP

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS
/WL/	5,841,276 (English counterpart of JP-A-H08-304432 which is discussed in pages 3-4 of the spec.)	Nov. 24, 1998	Makino et al.		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

								TRANSLATION	
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	YES	NO
/WL/		JP-A-H08-75835* (Discussed in page 1 of the spec.)	3/22/96	JAPAN				X (Abstract)	
/WL/		JP-A-2000-46513* (Discussed in page 4 of the spec.)	2/18/00	JAPAN				X (Abstract)	
/WL/		JP-A-2001-116773* (Discussed in page 4 of the spec.)	4/27/01	JAPAN				X (Abstract)	
/WL/		JP-A-2001-228229* (Discussed in page 3 of the spec.)	8/24/01	JAPAN				X (Abstract)	
/WL/		JP-A-2001-318131* (Discussed in page 3 of the spec.)	11/16/01	JAPAN				X (Abstract)	
/WL/		JP-A-2001-289926*	1019/01	JAPAN				X (Abstract and partial translation)	

* Full English text is available in machine-translated form in JPO (Japanese Patent Office) English language web site at <http://www1.ipdl.jpo.go.jp/PA1/cgi-bin/PA1INDEX>.

OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

EXAMINER /Walter Lindsay Jr/		DATE CONSIDERED 04/16/2007

Notice of References Cited

Application/Control No.

10/717,902

Applicant(s)/Patent Under
Reexamination
AO ET AL.

Examiner

Walter L. Lindsay, Jr.

Art Unit

2812

Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
*	A	US-2006/0164204	07-2006	Nishiwaki et al.	338/200
	B	US-			
	C	US-			
	D	US-			
	E	US-			
	F	US-			
	G	US-			
	H	US-			
	I	US-			
	J	US-			
	K	US-			
	L	US-			
	M	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	
	V	
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.